GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4243
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2001
CLOSURE OF ECL COLLIERIES
SUNIL KHAN

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether landed cost of the Australian Coal is higher than Indian Coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any proper mining is being done in E.C.L;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether this coal is better for power sector;

(f) whether there is huge reserve of coal in Ardha-Gram Colliery of ECL; and

g) if so, the reasons for its closure?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN)

(a)&(b): Ministry of Coal or Coal India Limited(CIL) do not importcoal. Coal which is under Open General Licence(OGL) isimported by consumers on grounds of inadequate availability in the domestic market or on cost considerations.

(c)&(d) : Mine operations in ECL are being done in consonance with the suitable technologies and techno- economical feasibility.

(e) : Coal mined in different coalfields of ECL is of different grades.The boilers in most of the power stations in the country are so designed that they can use inferior grades of coal, adequately available indigenously.

(f)&(g) : The mineable reserve in Ardhagram Open Cast Project(OCP)as on 1.4.2001 is 1.40 million tonnes. In Ardhagram OCP, production had to be kept suspended from 1999- 2000 because of continuous agitation by land losers about demands beyond the norms of the company.